Land and Building of NEC

2184. SHRI W. ANGOU SINGH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the North Eastern Council does not own land and building at Shilong in Meghalaya;

(b) if so, what steps have been taken to provide land and building to NEC;

(c) whether the Meghalaya Government has not extended help to NEC for having its own land and building; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) and (b) NEC has only 1 (one) acre of land for residential quarters where-in 53 Nos. of quarters have been constructed for its officers and staff, proposal was sent to Government of Arunachal Pradesh to sell old Secretariat building at Shillong to NEC for office accommodation. Similarly proposal was also sent to Government of Meghalaya to sell old taxation building to NEC. Government of Meghalaya has indicated its willingness to give old taxation building to NEC on 30 years lease and the offer is under examination in NEC Sectt.

(c) and (d) Government of Meghalaya has extended assistance but so far not been successful in helping NEC to have its own land.

Persons killed by Terrorists in Assam

2185. SHRI PRAKANTA WARISA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the district-wise details of persons kidnapped and murdered by terrorist groups in Assam, during the last three years, till-date;

(b) the details of ex-gratia payment made by Government to dependents of the victims; and

(c) what steps are being taken by Government to punish the criminals and check killings in that State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) According to information available, the detailed district-

wise figures of the persons kidnapped and murdered by terrorist groups in Assam during the last three years and till date are as follows:—

District	1997		1998		1999 (upto Nov. 30)	
	Kidnapped	Murdered	Kidnapped	Murdered	Kidnapped	Murdered
Nagaon	9	14	31	8	18	11
Nalbari	26	100	18	70	4	22
Kamrup	14	29	25	26	7	19
Jorhat	6	3	—	1	—	2
Barpeta	3	12	6	38	8	23
Kokrajhar	5	8	18	180	8	32
Darrang	16	60	9	34	4	20
Bogaigaon	3	11	10	22	3	1
Sonitpur	1	11	3	18	2	20
N.C. Hills	2	20	2	6	4	24
K. Anglong	2	10	7	1	1	15
Dhubri	3	5	6	31	17	34
Goalpara	9	14	10	13	1	4
N. Lakhimpur	3	23	4	3	4	6
Sibsagar	11	5	1	5	—	5
Tinsukia	3	5	—	5	3	14
Dibrugarh	1	18	1	4	1	5
Morigaon	1	—	2	3	4	2
Golaghat	5	7	1	4	—	2
Cachar	—	—	4	—	10	4
Dhemagi	—	1	4	1	—	3

(b) An ex-gratia amount of Rs. 1 lakh is paid by Government of Assam to next of kin of civilians killed in terrorist violence.

(c) Government has taken various steps to bring the law and order situation in Assam under control. These include, *inter-alia*, deployment of para-military forces and Army in the State, Coordinated action by Army, Para-military Forces and State Police for counter insurgency operations, declaration of United Liberation Front of Assam (ULFA), National Democratic Front of Boroland (NDFB) and National Socialist

Council of Nagaland (NSCN) as unlawful associations under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967. Regular review of the situation both at Stae and Central Government level is being made.

Discussions on violence against Women

2186. SHRI ANANTRAY DEVSHANKER DAVE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of dowry deaths and rape cases reported in various parts of the country;

(b) the concrete steps taken by Government to avert such violence;

(c) whether Government are convening a conference of Ministry of Law and Home of States, to discuss the issues related to violence against women;

(d) if so, whether Government are bringing forward a legislation before Parliament; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) A statement indicating the number of dowry deaths and rape cases reported in various parts of the country during 1997 and 1998 is annexed. (*See* below)

(b) 'Public Order' and 'Police' are State subjects as per the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India. The registration, investigation, detection and prevention of crimes, including crimes against women, is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments. However, the Government of India has been advising the State Governments, from time to time, to give more focussed attention to improving the administration of criminal justice system to ensure prevention of atrocities against women and other vulnerable sections of the society. The Government of India has also been extending financial assistance to the State Governments for improving their policing infrastructure.

(c) to (e) No proposal to hold such a conference is under consideration at present. However, the Government proposes to amend section 376 of the Indian Penal Code so as to provide death as one of the punishments for the offence of rape.